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THE REDS Review

Official Programme £2

11th July 2015 - Kick off 3pm

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Today we extend a very warm welcome to the players, officials and supporters of SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY to the Impact Arena for today's game.

We trust that you will enjoy your day, but should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the club to gain an answer.

To correspond with the club, write to:

Alfreton Town Football Club

Impact Arena
North Street, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 7FZ

Email: enquiries@alfretontownfc.com
To telephone the club: 01773 830 277
To fax the club: 01773 836 164
Club Website: alfretontownfc.com

Alfreton Town FC Directory:

Chairman:	Mr Wayne Bradley
Directors:	Mr D Gregory Mr J Glasby Mr M. Hitchcock
Vice Presidents:	Mr Tom McRoy (deceased) Mr Clive Atkinson (deceased) Mr Sean Egan
Club Secretary:	Mr Bryan Rudkin
Club Doctor:	Dr Niall McKay
Manager:	Nicky Law
Assistant Manager:	Russ O'Neil
Physiotherapist:	Becky Lineker
Press Officer:	Kev Miles
Groundsman:	Rob Brooks
Safety Officer:	Nigel Flint
Playing Kit Manager:	Pam Adams
Performance Analyst	Jimmy Redfern

To contact the Chairman please either e-mail lisa@healthcaremedia.co.uk or phone (0115) 939 2090 Extension 107 or waynebradwayne

THE REDS Review

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For all sponsorship and advertisement opportunities, contact Lisa Towerzey on 0115 939 2090 Ex 107 or e-mail lisa@healthcaremedia.co.uk.

FROM THE MANAGER

NICK LAW

Welcome to the Impact Arena for today's game versus Sheffield Wednesday FC.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank our visitors for today's fixture and for coming to the Impact Arena.

I hope everybody concerned enjoys their day with us and a safe journey home.

Today will be a great test for us having only had 4 training sessions under our belt and I'm sure after today, against such quality opposition, those levels will be tested severely and raised by the time 4.45pm comes but that is what pre- season is about, getting fit and ready for August the 8th.

Hopefully our visitors will bring good support with them today as to get a first glimpse of their new recruits and their new manager's style of play hopefully that will make for a good atmosphere.

It's early days for us with only 10 players signed for next season, that ten will give us a good starting point as we look to recruit further players in the coming weeks to increase the squad to 17 possibly 18, more than that isn't realistic numbers at this level.

I'm sure our visitors, along with everybody, will be impressed by the pitch it's looking fantastic once again and credit to the Chairman for investing in such a surface and Rob for his hard work in getting it to where it is in such a short space of time.

I hope you enjoy the game today and are looking forward to watching our new signings for the 1st time and please give them your support and try and be patient as this is a young group and they will take time to gel and find their feet at a new club.
Enjoy the game
Nick

FROM THE CHAIR

WAYNE BRADLEY



Good afternoon and welcome to the Impact Arena for today's opening home pre-season fixture of the season.

Please join me in welcoming all of the officials and supporters of Sheffield Wednesday who have travelled with our visitors today.

The sun was predicted to shine today and the feel good factor will reflect on the manicured pitch to help paint a pretty picture for is all to enjoy.

For the players of both teams the picture is a part of a much bigger image. The hard work began some weeks ago and will be going through the gears as they rise to the pace of the forthcoming season.

Today we should appreciate the task in and like the weather (if the forecast is correct) enjoy the run out.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking our visitors for including ourselves on their pre-season schedule and hope that they gain from the fixture all that they aimed for from the offset.

For ourselves, we will continue to test our options as we close in on the finalisation of the squad for the forthcoming season with only eighteen places up for grabs, we will take our time and aim to get it right for the challenge ahead.

The playing surface is certainly looking the complete picture and with good financial investment, so it should be. The actual test of the work undertaken will be in the 'rainy season'.

Season Tickets and 12 Match Discount Tickets are still on sale and anyone wishing to purchase, can do so via the General Office or by phone to the ticket office.

To date the Season Ticket Sales are up by 19% on those sold last year. So a big well done to all for positive response.

The league fixtures are out and are viewable via the clubs website and other social media sites.

A testing season is certainly in store and we hope that you will join us all the way on what promises to be an interesting journey.

The club would like you to play your part in today's proceedings. Be supportive, be appreciative of the clubs family values. Please refrain from the chanting of foul and abusive language. Offenders will be subject to club discipline.

If you do enjoy your day please tell your friends. If you do not, let me know.

My contact details can be found at the beginning of this programme.

Wayne Bradley
Chairman

SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

IAN MCROY

Good Afternoon and welcome back to the Impact Arena.

Wimbledon has not yet crowned it's champions, we are only days into an Ashes series, the summer's music festivals are in full swing; and yet we are once more on the brink of a new season.

In a month's time we will kick of our National North 2015/15 campaign at Bradford Park Avenue, when the swings, roundabouts and that inevitable rollercoaster picks up speed once more.

I am sure that we all want to put the trials and tribulations of last season behind us and build again that great momentum that brought much success in the past.

Much water has gone under that proverbial bridge since we witnessed our demise from the top table, sealed at the Memorial Ground against a rampant Rovers outfit intent on reaffirming two Bristol teams in the Football League.

Onwards and upwards then as we attempt the fight back, and I know that you will all be up for the tests that will surely come in the weeks and months ahead.

Battle cry then of C'MON YOU RED'S

This coming Monday 13th July 2015 sees the Supporters Association hold it's annual AGM.

This important gathering will take place at the King Alfred Hotel and will commence at 19.30pm and all are welcome, new members; and old.

This important date on the Association calendar has historically well attended and I see no reason why this year should be any different, and I hope that you will be able to join us as we plot the aforementioned fight back to securing our reservation at Non Leagues top table.

We all enjoyed gorging on what that elevated tier had to offer, and our return to so called greasy spoons, with the odd high end bistro thrown into the mix; will hopefully rekindle that fire and desire for a rapid as possible return to fine dining.

It is up to you. Your support is the most vital component in a structure that has many facets with that must come together to make a whole that produces the goods and the desired success.

If viewed as a wheel, then you our valued commodity are a cog in that wheel but we need all the cogs in place for that wheel to turn and continue its journey.

Simple analogy, or heavy handed even, but the message is clear, without you, you the cogs/supporters, this wheel/football club, will cease to function to the best of its ability and any progress will stall at best and at worst could well fail.

None of us wants the latter, we all love the Red's too much, so please support the best little pit village in the world and help us all return to winning ways.

Many events will be staged by the Association in the weeks and months ahead, and these will become pivotal to the fundraising year, so I hope that you will be able to join us at some point in the campaign and assist the great fight back that will see a return to former glories.

Please do not forget that date, Monday 13th July King Alfred Hotel 19.30pm.

Enjoy to days game.

FIXTURES, GOALS AND APPEARANCES

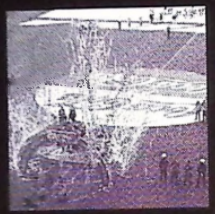
			SCORE	POINTS	ATT	TEAM
Sat 08-Aug-15	BRADFORD PARK AVENUE	Away				
Tue 11-Aug-15	LOWESTOFT TOWN	Home				
Sat 15-Aug-15	BRACKLEY TOWN	Home				
Tue 18-Aug-15	GLOUCESTER CITY	Away				
Sat 22-Aug-15	CURZON ASHTON	Home				
Sat 29-Aug-15	SOLIHULL MOORS	Away				
Mon 31-Aug-15	GAINSBOROUGH TRINITY	Home				
Sat 05-Sep-15	CHORLEY	Away				
Sat 12-Sep-15	HEDNESFORD TOWN	Home				
Tue 15-Sep-15	WORCESTER CITY	Home				
Sat 19-Sep-15	STOCKPORT COUNTY	Away				
Sat 26-Sep-15	The Emirates FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round TBC					
Sat 03-Oct-15	STALYBRIDGE CELTIC	Home				
Sat 10-Oct-15	The Emirates FA Cup 3rd Qualifying Round TBC					
Sat 17-Oct-15	BOSTON UNITED	Away				
Sat 24-Oct-15	NORTH FERRIBY UNITED	Home				
Sat 31-Oct-15	AFC TELFORD UNITED	Away				
Sat 07-Nov-15	AFC FYLDE	Home				
Sat 14-Nov-15	HARROGATE TOWN	Away				
Sat 21-Nov-15	BOSTON UNITED	Home				
Sat 28-Nov-15	FA Trophy 3rd Qualifying Round	TBC				
Sat 05-Dec-15	LOWESTOFT TOWN	Away				
Sat 12-Dec-15	FA Trophy 1st Round	TBC				
Sat 19-Dec-15	BRADFORD PARK AVENUE	Home				
Sat 26-Dec-15	TAMWORTH	Away				
Mon 28-Dec-15	SOLIHULL MOORS	Home				
Sat 02-Jan-16	TAMWORTH	Home				
Sat 09-Jan-16	BRACKLEY TOWN	Away				
Sat 16-Jan-16	CURZON ASHTON	Away				
Sat 23-Jan-16	CHORLEY	Home				
Sat 30-Jan-16	NUNEATON TOWN	Home				
Sat 06-Feb-16	WORCESTER CITY	Away				
Sat 13-Feb-16	FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER	Away				
Sat 20-Feb-16	CORBY TOWN	Home				
Sat 27-Feb-16	AFC FYLDE	Away				
Tue 01-Mar-16	AFC TELFORD UNITED	Home				
Sat 05-Mar-16	STALYBRIDGE CELTIC	Away				
Sat 12-Mar-16	HEDNESFORD TOWN	Away				
Sat 19-Mar-16	FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER	Home				
Sat 26-Mar-16	GLOUCESTER CITY	Home				
Mon 28-Mar-16	GAINSBOROUGH TRINITY	Away				
Sat 02-Apr-16	CORBY TOWN	Away				
Sat 09-Apr-16	HARROGATE TOWN	Home				
Sat 16-Apr-16	NUNEATON TOWN	Away				
Sat 23-Apr-16	STOCKPORT COUNTY	Home				
Sat 30-Apr-16	NORTH FERRIBY UNITED	Away				

OUR VISITORS

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

Sheffield Wednesday Football Club is in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England who play in the Championship, the second tier of the English leagues.







History

Sheffield Wednesday are one of the oldest professional clubs in the world and the third oldest in the English league.

The Wednesday, as they were known until 1929, were founding members of The Football Alliance in 1889 and its first champions. They joined The Football League three years later and were also one of the founding members of the Premier League in 1992. Since joining the Football League in 1892, the club has spent most of its history in the top flight of English football but have not played at this level since being relegated in 2000. They have won four League titles, three FA Cups and one League Cup.

Since 1899, Sheffield Wednesday have played home matches at Hillsborough Stadium in the north-western suburb of Owlerton, hence their nickname The Owls. Hillsborough is currently an all-seater ground with a capacity of 39,732.

The club was a cricket club when it formed in 1820 as The Wednesday Cricket Club (named after the day of the week when they played their matches). A meeting on the evening of Wednesday 4 September 1867 at the Adelphi Hotel established a footballing side to keep the team together and fit during the winter months. They played their first match against The Mechanics on 19 October the same year.

It soon became apparent that football would come to eclipse the cricketing side of the club. On 1 February 1868, Wednesday played their first competitive football match as they entered the Cromwell Cup, a four-team competition for newly formed clubs. They went on to win the cup, beating the Garrick Club 1–0 after extra time in the final at Bramall Lane.

Charles Clegg joined Wednesday in the 1867, starting a relationship that would last the rest of his life and eventually lead to his becoming the club's chairman. He also became president and chairman of the Football Association and known as the "Napoleon of Football". Clegg played for England in the first-ever international match, against Scotland in November 1872, thereby becoming Wednesday's first international player.

In 1876 they acquired Scot James Lang. Although he was not employed by the club, he was given a job by a member of the Sheffield Wednesday board that had no formal duties. He is now acknowledged as the first professional football player in England.

The 1880s saw two major events that radically changed the face of the club. In 1882 the cricket and football clubs parted company;[8] the cricket club ceased to exist in 1925. The football club turned professional in 1887 after pressure from players threatening to defect to other clubs. Sheffield Wednesday won their first game as a professional club against The Mechanics 3–0.

Name origins and nicknames

Sheffield Wednesday are the only English League club with a day of the week in their name. The club was initially a cricket club named The Wednesday Cricket Club after the day of the week on which they played their matches. The footballing side of the club was established to keep the team together and fit during the winter months.

The club was formerly known as "The Wednesday Football Club" until 1929, when the club was officially renamed "Sheffield Wednesday Football Club" under the stewardship of manager Robert Brown. The club is sometimes still referred to as simply 'The Wednesday'[29] or more commonly just 'Wednesday'. However the name Sheffield Wednesday dates back as far as 1883: the former ground at Olive Grove had the name Sheffield Wednesday painted on the stand roof.

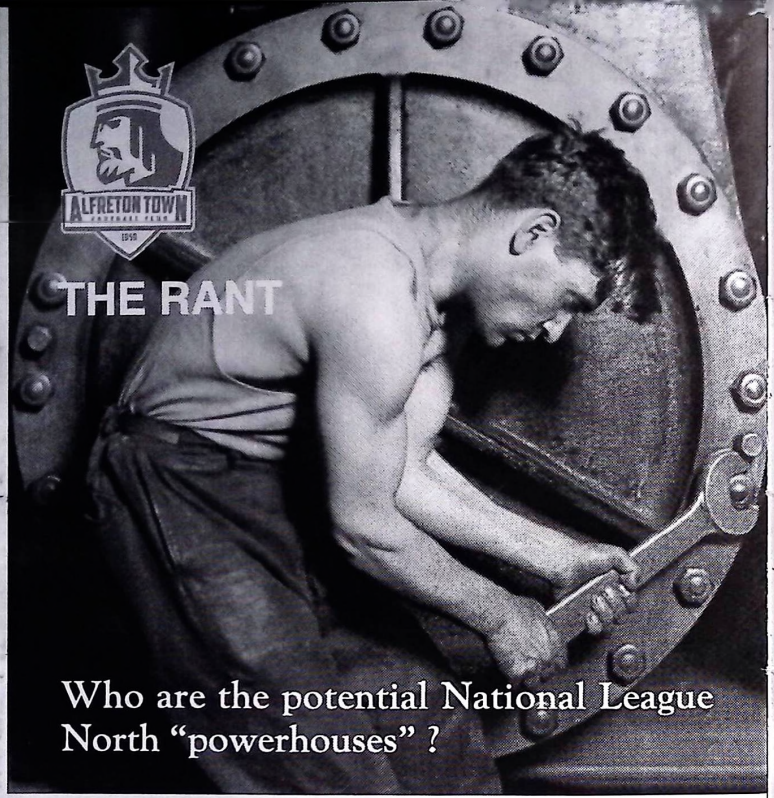
In the summer of 1912 a Wednesday player, George Robertson, presented the club with an owl mascot. A monkey mascot introduced some years earlier had not brought much luck even though the club stressed that they should keep their original nickname of "the Blades" (now the nickname of arch-rivals, Sheffield United). However, the club somehow failed to get their wish and the club became known as "The Owls" especially after, having placed the owl under the roof of the North stand in October, Wednesday went on to win the next four games (reference "One Hundred Years at Hillsborough" by Jason Dickenson).

In their early days, the club's nickname was The Blades, a term which was used for any sporting team from the City of Sheffield, famous the world over for its cutlery and knives. After rival team Sheffield United was created, both clubs were often called 'The Blades' until The Wednesday move to Owlerton. The popular view of the origin of the nickname is that Wednesday are known as "The Owls" because the stadium is technically in Owlerton. However, in the local pronunciation of "Owlerton" (OH-ler-ton), the first syllable rhymes with "pole", not "owl", and the mascot story suggests that this is not entirely the case.









THE RANT

Who are the potential National League North "powerhouses" ?

As it has been 4 seasons since we were last in this league and many of the teams have changed it does no harm to cast a look at the teams who are to be our opponents this coming season. Gate receipts form a basis of each teams overall income and provides an indication of the sums that they might have available to spend on playing budgets. Of course these figures are often skewed considerably by the generosity of investors, the ability of a Manager to put together a competitive squad irrespective of funds available and stadium upkeep costs. However, it should provide a guide as a starting point.

At this time of the year we can at least have a bit of fun by looking at how the table might look at the seasons end if attendances were the only factor to be taken into consideration.

Club	2014-15 average attendance	Highest attendance	Lowest attendance
Stockport County	2,634	3,401 v Chorley	1,962 v Barrow
FC Utd of Manchester	2,155	3,588 v Stourbridge	1,634 v Frickley Ath
AFC Telford	1,557	2,860 v Bristol R	657 v Gateshead
Chorley	1,163	2,556 v Barrow	630 v Leamington
Boston Utd	1,149	2,025 v Leamington	883 v Solihull Moors
Nuneaton Town	865	1,661 v Bristol R	636 v Braintree
ALFRETON TOWN	804	3,327 v Grimsby T	442 v Eastleigh
Tamworth	802	1,274 v Hednesford T	450 v Lowestoft T
Lowestoft Town	666	1,402 v Barrow	512 v Colwyn Bay
Hednesford T	545	958 v Stockport County	401 v Gloucester City
AFC Fylde	534	1,279 v Barrow	273 v Leamington
Worcester City	532	859 v Leamington	333 v Guiseley
Stalybridge Celtic	517	1,616 v Stockport County	267 v Lowestoft T
Harrogate Town	510	927 v Stockport County	291 v Gainsborough T
Corby Town	493	780 v Dorchester T	230 v Redditch Utd
Solihull Moors	463	716 v Boston Utd	240 v North Ferriby Utd
Gloucester City	429	804 v Worcester City	246 v Tamworth
Gainsborough Trinity	422	616 v Boston Utd	311 v Guiseley
North Ferriby Utd	367	705 v Chorley	231 v Leamington
Bradford Park Avenue	365	553 v Stockport County	235 v AFC Fylde
Brackley Town	292	775 v Hednesford T	192 v North Ferriby Utd
Curzon Ashton	276	1,100 v FC Utd of Manchester	126 v Whitby Town

Our own figure was boosted considerably at the end of the season by the fixture against Grimsby and by the "Pay-what-you-want" fixture against Welling – the average throughout the season was closer to 650 which would take us down another couple of places in the pecking order.

Obviously Stockport and FC Utd. are starting with a probable advantage and it will be interesting to see whether they can turn that into results on the pitch. We are aware of the clubs that have exceedingly generous benefactors and will "over perform," and there appears to be a few clubs who might well struggle – beware of these though, we ourselves were one in National League Premier and consistently surprised many people.

We need our Manager to again prove that he is a "cut above the rest," and for the fans to show that week in, week out they are going to turn out and play their part in the start of yet another fascinating journey.

Watch this space to measure the Managers/Team performance, and also whether our attendances will be sufficient to support our ambitions !!

IMPACT ARENA

Alfreton Town

Sheffield Wednesday

Played	Sub	Scored				Played	Sub	Scored
				1	1			
				2	2			
				3	3			
				4	4			
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				24	24			
				25	25			

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